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and bronchitis; 1 from cerebral abscess; 1 from apoplexy; 1 from cellulitis; 1 from morbis cordis, and 1 from natural causes.

Inclosed find triplicate copies of certificates issued to vessels; also duplicate copies of certificates issued to passengers.

Respectfully,

J. GREY THOMAS,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

CHINA.

Report from Hongkong—Plague and smallpox.

HONGKONG, CHINA, *April 10, 1901.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the report of inspection work at this station for the week ended April 6, 1901: Two hundred and forty individuals were bathed during the week and 256 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam. Seventeen cases of plague with 15 deaths were reported to sanitary board. Nine cases of smallpox and 4 deaths were also reported during the week. The smallpox epidemic appears to be subsiding, but for a time the conditions were so threatening that I was led to notify the Bureau by cable and request permission to vaccinate. Vaccination has not been done at this port in the past because of the presence of plague, and as I did not receive authority to begin it, it has not been done, although all ships have been advised to carry vaccine virus and vaccinate at once if the disease breaks out during the voyage.

The government of Hongkong has declared Manila an infected port because of plague.

Respectfully,

JOHN W. KERR,

Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Mortality statistics of Hongkong during March, 1901.

HONGKONG, CHINA, *April 23, 1901.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the report of inspection work at this station for the week ended April 20, 1901. I also transmit under same cover an abstract of the mortality statistics in the colony during the month of March. Eight vessels were inspected during the week, 480 individuals bathed, and 496 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

The steamship *Idzumi Maru*, bound for Seattle, Wash., was disinfected to kill rats. Fifteen piculs of human hair were disinfected by steam, prior to shipment to New York per steamship *Richmond Castle*, and a certificate given to that effect. The smallpox situation shows some improvement and will likely abate with the beginning of hot summer. Four cases and 1 death were reported to the sanitary board during the week.

It has been impossible to enforce vaccination on all outgoing steamers owing to the very limited supply of vaccine virus. At one time during the epidemic a local drug firm asked \$5 for single tubes of vaccine virus. Twenty-four cases of plague and 21 deaths were reported during the week. This is a decided increase over any previous week during the year.